Honorarium to Anganwadi Workers

763. DR. M JAGANNATH :
SHRI L. RAMANA :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of honorarium paid to Anganwadi workers and helpers in 1996 and the revised rates as at present;

(b) whether workers are protesting against the meagre rise in honorarium; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to pay a respectable honorarium to Anganwadi workers?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) The details of honorarium paid to Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers during 1996 and the rates revised with effect from 16.5.97 are given below:—

	Category	During 1996	Revised rates
ANGANWADI WORKERS			
1.	Non-Matriculates.	350	438
2.	Non-Matriculates with 5 years honorary work.	375	469
3.	Non-Matriculates with 10 years honorary work.	400	500
4.	Matriculates.	400	500
5.	Matriculates with 5 years honorary work	425	531
6.	Matriculates with 10 years honorary work.	450	563
HELPERS		200	260

(b) The honorarium of Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers has been increased by 25% and 30% respectively. However, the Government have received some representations from Anganwadi Workers/ Associations requesting for further enhancement in their honorarium.

(c) The recent increase in honorarium of Anganwadi Workers/Anganwadi Helpers with effect from May 16, 1997 has been approved taking into account their responsibilities and honorary nature of work. No further increase is, therefore, under consideration of the Government.

Allocation for Education Sector

764. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the allocation for the education sector to the level of 6 percent of the gross domestic product by the end of Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether the Government have finalised strategies to generate such a large amount of funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) The Approach Paper to the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002), Planning Commission states that around 6% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will be earmarked for the education sector by the year 2000.

[Translation]

Petrol Pumps/LPG Agencies

765. SHRI VIDYASAGAR SONKER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of scheduled castes in Jaunpur district provided with petrol pumps and natural gas agencies as per reservation policy of the Government;

(b) whether this facility is provided timely and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Six retail outlet dealerships and one LPG distributorship in Jaunpur district of Uttar Pradesh are being operated by Scheduled Castes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Flights from Delhi to Bagdogra via Calcutta

766. PROF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to introduce Indian Airlines flights from Delhi to Bagdogra via Calcutta;

(b) if so, the plan in details; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?